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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 30 totaled an estimated 14.0 billion ton-miles, 22.1 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1985 week included the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 48 weeks of 1985 was an estimated 818.9 billion ton-miles, down 4.4 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the holiday week ended November 30 totaled 299,893, down 22.8 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 24.4 percent below the preceding non-holiday week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.6 percent in the East, 30.9 percent in the South and 22.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, all of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. All of the 21 commodity groups declined from the preceding nonholiday week.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 23 totaled 92,070 trailers and/or containers, 36.4 percent above the corresponding holiday week of 1984.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 47 weeks of the year was 4,103,865 trailers and/or containers, down 1.0 percent from 1984.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/30/85:

| | Loadings in Week ended November 30, 1985 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1984 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 20,876 | D | 9,359 | 30.9 | D | 8,426 | 28.8 |
| Other farm products | 3,636 | D | 2,034 | 35.9 | D | 340 | 8.6 |
| Metallic ores | 12,527 | D | 1,575 | 11.2 | D | 2,371 | 15.9 |
| Coal | 89,615 | D | 13,530 | 13.1 | D | 30,215 | 25.2 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 8,324 | D | 3,050 | 26.8 | D | 4,059 | 32.8 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 6,056 | D | 6,326 | 47.6 | D | 3,946 | 36.2 |
| Grain mill products | 8,424 | D | 2,223 | 20.9 | D | 1,935 | 18.7 |
| Food and kindred products | 8,567 | D | 3,234 | 27.4 | D | 2,875 | 25.1 |
| Primary forest products | 7,327 | D | 6,547 | 47.2 | D | 3,991 | 35.3 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 5,101 | D | 2,176 | 29.9 | D | 1,917 | 27.3 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 12,250 | D | 4,178 | 25.4 | D | 576 | 4.5 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 18,992 | D | 6,023 | 24.1 | D | 4,383 | 18.8 |
| Petroleum products | 3,416 | D | 1,714 | 33.4 | D | 1,061 | 23.7 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 7,264 | D | 3,744 | 34.0 | D | 2,104 | 22.5 |
| Coke | 4,220 | D | 812 | 16.1 | D | 970 | 18.7 |
| Metals and products | 7,324 | D | 1,050 | 12.5 | D | 1,147 | 13.5 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 16,307 | D | 6,010 | 26.9 | D | 6,698 | 29.1 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 5,592 | D | 1,200 | 37.1 | D | 2,452 | 30.5 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 5,313 | D | 2,346 | 30.6 | D | 1,164 | 18.0 |
| All other carloads | 47,711 | D | 9,068 | 16.4 | D | 15,816 | 24.9 |
| LCL traffic | 134 | D | 48 | 26.1 | D | 129 | 48.7 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 289,893 | D | 88,465 | 27.8 | D | 96,575 | 24.4 |

Corresponding Week in 1984 386,358

| | 1985 | 1984 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (48 Weeks) | 18,029,351 | 18,879,424 | D 4.5 |
| Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 47 Weeks ended November 23 | 804.9 (rev.) | 838.5 | D 4.0 |
| Week ended November 30 | 14.0 | 18.0 | D 22.1 |
| 48 Weeks cumulative | 818.9 | 856.5 | D 4.4 |

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